

# Teamwork

## NEWS

March 2006



A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## Humphreys County Career Center officially debuts

It's official! Humphreys and Houston county residents are the latest Tennessee citizens who can take advantage of employee and employer services at a single location.

The Career Center at Humphreys County, which was established at a new location several months ago, was officially opened at a ribbon cutting and open house on March 29 to a crowd of around 100 people.

"The Humphreys County Career Center is another critical cog in our Career Center network, the workforce initiative that brings together job search and related services under one roof," said **Commissioner Neeley**.

"The Career Centers streamline the process for both the job applicant looking for work and the business looking for workers."

The new Tennessee Career Center Humphreys County is a partnership between Humphreys County, the Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development, the North Tennessee Workforce Board, and Workforce Essentials. The Center was constructed locally through the efforts of the Humphreys County government, led by **County Mayor Jaycee Rawlings**.

**Wanda Rye** with the TDLWD and **Michelle McCaleb** with Workforce Essentials share leadership responsibilities for the Humphreys County Career Center.



*Taking part in the ribbon cutting for the Career Center at Humphreys County are **Marla Rye**, president of Workforce Essentials; **William "Sammy" Stuard**, president and CEO of F&M Bank in Clarksville and chairman of the North Tennessee Workforce Board; **Jaycee Rawlings**, Humphreys County Mayor; **TDLWD Commissioner James Neeley**; **Wanda Rye**, Career Center at Humphreys County; **Walter Keith**, employer services specialist; and **Michelle McCaleb**, Career Center at Humphreys.*

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## New TDLWD appointments announced

Commissioner Neeley has appointed **Susan Cowden** to serve as administrator for the Employment and Workforce Development Division, replacing Paul Haynes who has returned to the Nashville Career Advancement Center. Susan previously worked for the Department of Labor & Workforce Development as director of Employment and Training in the Employment and Workforce Development Division.



*Susan Cowden*

Susan has 20 years of leadership experience, operating workforce development and welfare reform programs that serve job seekers and employers. Most recently she was employed as program director for the Nashville Career Advancement Center, in which capacity she oversaw the delivery of programs and services for a four-county area in middle Tennessee, including metro Nashville. She also has extensive experience in policy development and program direction with the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

She earned a B.A. degree from the University of Tennessee.

**Susie Bourque** will serve as assistant administrator for the Employment and Workforce Development Division.

Susie is currently director of Performance and Compliance for the Employment and Training division. A career state employee, she began her career with the Public Service Commission in 1986. She continued her service working with two governors in the State Capitol and joined the Department of Labor in 1997.



*Susie Bourque*

**Blaine Sprouse** has been named assistant administrator for the Workers' Compensation Division.

Blaine joined the staff of the Workers' Compensation Division in 2005, following employment in the legal field as a judicial clerk for Chancellor Robert Brandt, an

assistant attorney general, and an attorney in private practice. He is also a professional musician (fiddler) and Grand Ole Opry performer, touring and recording from 1974 to 1994.

He has a B.S. degree from Vanderbilt University and a J.D. from Vanderbilt School of Law. He is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the National Association of Hearing Officials. He also belongs to the Nashville Association of Musicians, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, and the Country Music Association.



*Blaine Sprouse*

**Marva Doremus** was appointed assistant administrator for the Adult Education Division.

Marva began her career in Adult Education in 1989 as a part-time instructor in Sumner County and was hired as Sumner County's first full-time AE teacher in 1990. She became the coordinator of the 1000+ AE program in 1994 and joined the state staff in 1999 as a consultant. She has worked in every aspect of AE including teaching, supervising, training teachers and tutors, and recruiting.

She is the co-author of a 90-book series called "Reading for Adults," which was published by McGraw Hill in 2000. This series of low-level readers is based on adults' real-life experiences – getting a job, losing a job, dealing with children, stress, and family issues among others.

She holds a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Adult Education.



*Marva Doremus*

**Steve Hawkins** will continue as assistant administrator for the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Division.

Steve assists in managing the day-to-day operations of TOSHA, supervising eight managers with various program responsibilities. He also serves as the liaison between the state's OSHA program and federal OSHA monitors and promotes workplace safety by educating employer groups and labor organizations about safety and

## Appointments (Cont.)

health regulations and better methods of controlling and eliminating workplace hazards.

He joined the department in 1986, beginning as an occupational safety specialist and subsequently serving in area safety supervisor and safety compliance manager positions. He is a formally licensed blaster in the state of Tennessee and a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers.

He earned a B.S. degree in Industrial Technology from the College of Engineering of Tennessee Technological University in 1986.



*Steve Hawkins*

## Harold Davis named head of Job Service Program Support

**Harold Davis** was recently named director of Job Service Program Support for the Employment Security Division. Harold has more than 33 years of career service employment with the State of Tennessee, beginning work with the department as a job service test development technician.

He later held the position of federal contractor job listing coordinator and in 1982 became chief of federal benefits in the Unemployment Insurance Division. He subsequently held various unemployment insurance management level positions before being promoted to assistant director of Job Service Program Support for the Employment Security Division in 2005, the section where his Labor & Workforce Development career began.

He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University.



*Harold Davis*

## Employee commendation

To: **Mark Chandler**, Field Operations  
From: A Hurricane Katrina victim

"I wrote to Commissioner James Neeley, and you responded to my concern on March 2, 2006. I wanted to update you on my progress and the 'angel on board' you referred me to. No words can express the heartfelt gratitude I have for the amazing efforts of Ms. **Gail Taylor**, manager of your department's Raleigh office in Memphis, who assisted me in seeking employment in Bartlett, Tennessee. While many challenges remain for evacuees adjusting to a new life in communities unlike their faraway homes, what Ms. Taylor did was incredible and should be commended. Her actions certainly speak volumes about corporations today.

I just wanted you to know what an exceptional employee you have in Ms Taylor. Her professional, calm, and responsive manner was a great help to me when my frustration was at an all-time high. She applied her leadership skills and networking abilities to an array of exceptional community resources. Her knowledge allowed me to assess my situation and accomplish my purpose. I feel her remarkable problem-solving abilities are rare indeed.

In Ms. Taylor, I felt I was in the presence of the most focused and determined person I had met since my evacuation. She gave me back the direction I thought I had lost.

I have since moved to Clarksville and just wanted to share the experience I had with Ms. Taylor. Her kindness and compassion are what put me back on track. I am currently employed and will certainly be forever grateful for her knowledge, energy and support."

## Generation X likes work, study shows

Generation X may not be the selfish job-hoppers everyone once thought they were. In a study of 1,200 working professionals born between 1964 and 1975, 47 percent said that spending the rest of their working careers with their current organizations would make them happy; 85 percent said their employers' future was something they cared about a great deal; 83 percent said they were willing to go "above and beyond" to help their company succeed; and 75 percent described themselves as "extremely glad" they chose their current employers to work for.

The survey, sponsored by GE and Ernst & Young, was conducted by the consultant group Catalyst.

*Source: Leading for Results*



## Nashville job expo pulls thousands

Around 3,000 job seekers attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Project Paycheck on March 28 at the Gaylord Entertainment Center – one of the best ever turnouts for the event. Around 140 employers were on-site to interview, accept résumés, and provide information.

Nashville television channels 2, 4, and 5 all showed up for either live feeds or to shoot for their evening newscasts.

This year's workshops offered an assortment of choices for those wishing to hone their job-application skills. Almost 200 attended the eight workshops presented by the Nashville Chamber of Commerce and area Career Centers; 250 took advantage of the resume critique and editing sessions that were ongoing during the day.

Special thanks to the 100 volunteers who contributed to the event and to **Jeff Hentschel**, special projects coordinator for the TDLWD Communications Office, who handled the department's public relations for the event and served as the official photographer for the day. Pictures can be viewed at <http://www.projectpaycheck.com/photos.html>.



*Pictured at Project Paycheck are Terry Hiers, manager of the Career Center in Metro Center, Linda Inman of Research and Statistics, and Joe Fults, director for Dislocated Workers.*



*Crowd at Project Paycheck*

## Middle and east employees honored

The following middle and east Tennessee staff members were recognized for their years of state government service at receptions at the Millennium Maxwell House in Nashville on March 30, 2006, and the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Knoxville on April 6, 2006, respectively. Both receptions were co-sponsored by the TDLWD and the International Association of Workforce Professionals. Recognition was based on service through 2005.

### Middle

#### **5 years**

Alexander, Neil	Nashville
Anderson, James P.	Nashville
Baird, Linda J	Nashville
Balthrop, Lela,	Nashville
Bennett, Carlene T.	Nashville
Calhoun, William	Nashville
Campbell, Jeffrey	Nashville
Cookston, Gayle	Nashville
Crawford, Shannon	Nashville
Flanagan, James	Nashville
Girard, William T	Nashville
Greiss, Galil G	Nashville
Holt, Ruth E	Franklin
Inman, Linda F	Nashville
Jones, Phillip D	Tullahoma
Key, Betty M	Cookeville
Knight, Bryan	Nashville
McBride, Bridgett	Nashville
Moore, Harold	Murfreesboro
Morris-Shrum, Kara	Nashville
Padgett, William	Nashville
Parks, Holly	Nashville
Sefers, Scott A.	Nashville
Wallace, Bobby W	Nashville
Whitaker, Cedricka	Nashville

#### **10 years**

Bell, LindaLee	Nashville
Betts, Robin	Nashville
Brandon, Joe	Nashville
Carmichael, Joyce	Nashville
Green, Mary	Nashville
Hamlett, Shara	Nashville
Hinkle, Reba	Nashville
Hunt, Martha	Nashville
Jackson, Robert	Nashville
Jones, Tamiko	Nashville
Ladd, Anna	Nashville

Larue, Pamela	Nashville
Manier, Margaret	Nashville
Matlock, Becky	Nashville
Moon, Wanda	Nashville
Perry, Nancy	Nashville
Stiles, Mark	Nashville
Turner, Donna	Nashville

#### **15 years**

Crawford, Jewel	Nashville
Howell-Hurd, Patricia	Nashville
Thomas, Jane-Elise	Nashville
Turner, Frances	Gallatin

#### **20 years**

Ambrose, Brown	Nashville
Bennett, Sandra	Nashville
Bottaro, Norma L	Nashville
Chandler, Richard M.	Nashville
Collier, Betty	Clarksville
Dukes, Dorissa N	Fayetteville
Hudgens, Bonnie	Nashville
Ingram, Donald B	Nashville
Malone, Teresa M	Gallatin
Moore, Rhonda Dickson	
Peppers, Jimmie	Pulaski
Rains, Will A	Nashville
Sizer, William P.	Nashville
Trotter, Sarah	Nashville

#### **25 years**

Caldwell, Mary E.	Nashville
Calvert, Jeflyn G.	Lawrenceburg
Coble, Deborah J.	Nashville
Crosier, Vicki H.	Nashville
Crow, Donald V.	Nashville
Crutcher, Darrell L.	Nashville
Ewell, Sydne L	Nashville
Gaines, Evelyn D	Nashville
Hutson, Nancy A	Nashville
Lawson, Lisa J.	Shelbyville
Perry, Charlotte J.	Lawrenceburg
Ridley III, Nelson	Nashville
Shepherd, Carolyn S	Nashville
Wettemann, Martha	Nashville
Wright, Julia S.	Nashville

#### **30 years**

Brown, Rita K.	Waverly
Carter, Duane D.	Cookeville
Davis, Claudia E.	Nashville
Deal, Charles R.	Shelbyville
Donlon, Bernard H.	(Retired)
	Nashville

Driver, Glenda G.	(Retired)
	Shelbyville
Fort, Michael D	Nashville
Harris, Joan Y.	Nashville
Hudspeth, Virginia C	Nashville
Ketner, Lee P.	Franklin
Lovell, Joan E.	Columbia
McHone, Paula J.	Nashville
Meadows, Thelma K.	Gallatin
Mills, Blantie C.	Nashville
Myatt, Charles	Nashville
Myatt, Donna R.	Nashville
Reed, Caroline T.	Nashville
Rollins, Mary D	Nashville
Samuels, Lela	Nashville
Scales, O. J.	Nashville
Sexton, Beverly J.	Nashville
Sneed, Betty J.	Nashville
Stephens, Marcia K.	Tullahoma
Williams, Richard A.	Nashville
Wright, Robin A.	Nashville

#### **35 years**

Ashley, Doris C.	Nashville
Boyd, Barbara J.	Nashville
Brooks, Rebecca F.	Nashville
Dial, George D.	Nashville
Johnson, Janice D.	Nashville
Lankford, Hugh H.	Nashville
O'Brien, Darlene A.	Nashville
Parrish, Ernest F.	Nashville
Pryor, Jane B.	Nashville
Rivers, Mary E.	Nashville
Sanders, Linda L.	Nashville
Thompson, Don A.	Nashville
Von Dohlen, Sylvia	Nashville

#### **40 years**

Cummings, Joe S.	Nashville
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#### **45 years**

Long, Doyle A.	Nashville
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### East

#### **5 years**

Barger, Wanda A	Vonore
Flick, Jimmie	Bristol
King, Brian H	Knoxville
Misciagna, Mary	Kingsport
Tackett, Gary	Caryville
Whiting, Vicki	Knoxville

(Continued on page 6)

## Service awards (Continued)

### 10 years

Cain, Jeffrey	Knoxville
Tarlton, Diana	Johnson City
Watts, III John	Alcoa
Worley, Belinda	Dayton

### 15 years

Collins, Bobby	Greenville
Drummond, Frank	Chattanooga
Evans, Donnalyn	(Retired)
	Oak Ridge
Liles, Bobby	Knoxville

### 20 years

Bauer, Susan L.	Chattanooga
Chastin, Glenda	Cleveland
Fisher, Kevin E	Johnson City
Lytle, Hope	Chattanooga
Ploeger, Cheryl	Chattanooga
Rookard, Brenda	Knoxville

### 25 years

Ayers, David R.	Jacksboro
Banks, Stephane C.	Dandridge
Beverly, Rebecca E.	Crossville
Bradley, Charles L.	Knoxville
Green, Larry J.	Chattanooga
Keeble, Don E	Vonore
Lewis, David L.	Cleveland
Skeen, Guy K.	Knoxville
Synder, Karen L.	Lenoir City
White, Sue G.	Caryville
Wilhoit, Jerry L.	Greenville

### 30 years

Bradley, Charles K.	Gatlinburg
Buffler, James A.	Knoxville
Butler, Richard E.	Jasper
Carroll, Debra K	Alcoa
Cheek, Janice D.	Cleveland
Deck, Rebecca S.	Alcoa
Dirl, Joseph T.	Knoxville
Elkins, Norman D.	Chattanooga
Foust, Debbie L.	Oneida
Gleason, John C.	Knoxville
Howell, William R	Knoxville
Massey, Labreeska .	Chattanooga
Miller, Carol P.	Sevierville
Peterson, Joanne	Johnson City
Strong, Reginald S	Knoxville
Sullivan, Annette	Alcoa
Witt, David E.	Chattanooga
Young, George S.	Johnson City

### 35 years

Grant, Billie J.	Knoxville
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### 40 years

Wood, Mary A.	Knoxville
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## Department takes DUA claims for west and middle counties

The TDLWD Claims Center is taking claims for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) in response to the federal government's approval of Governor Bredsen's request for disaster assistance. The recent extension added the counties of Benton, Cannon, Carroll, Cheatham, Cumberland, Davidson, Dickson, Fayette, Haywood, Maury, Sumner, Warren and Weakley to the previous request that approved assistance for Dyer and Gibson counties.

Claims as of 4/20/06

### Dyer/Gibson

TUC 21  
DUA 06

### Mid TN

TUC 52  
DUA 02

DUA is available for people in those counties who lost work as a direct result of the storms occurring April 2 through April 8. Some other conditions may also qualify people for DUA, such as having to travel through an affected area or not being able to begin a job because of the disaster.

Individuals should call the special number for DUA at the Claims Center at 1-877-813-0950 ext. 7540 to file within 30 days of the disaster declaration. They should have available

their 2005 federal income tax return, social security number and any papers with wage and employment information prior to the disaster.

Weekly DUA benefit amounts are determined in the same way as regular unemployment benefits. Benefits range from \$107 to \$275 per week and are payable up to 26 weeks beginning with the week ending April 15, 2006. DUA benefits will end if unemployment is no longer caused by these severe storms.

## Calendar

April 25  
**TOSHA Voluntary Protection Program Star site presentation to Bridgestone Firestone, Warren County**

April 27  
**March 2006 county unemployment figures released**

May 18  
**April 2006 state unemployment figures released**

May 25  
**April 2006 county unemployment figures released**

May 29  
**Memorial Day observed; offices closed**

## Teamwork News



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